

# DISTRICT 6

Feb-Apr 2004

January marks the beginning of my fifth year of service to *our* community as your City Council representative. As the most

senior Councilmember, I have had a unique opportunity to observe the various challenges facing our city and our city government. Over the past several months there have been ongoing discussions regarding several proposals designed to alter our City Charter in an effort to address these challenges.

There is no question that I am proud of all that we have accomplished in our efforts to improve District 6. In addition to addressing the basic needs of our neighborhoods, I have honored my commitment to develop and implement programs and initiatives to ensure the long-term prosperity of San Antonio.

Over the next eighteen months I will continue to work with the community to identify and allocate funding for needed improvements within District 6 and to promote long-term initiatives designed to strengthen our families, our workforce and our neighborhoods. However, as the end of my tenure nears, I am faced with the realization that while we have made significant progress, we have only just begun to lay the foundation upon which the future growth of District 6 will occur.

It is unfortunate that many of the projects and issues that I am working on will not be completed during my time in office. Although I plan to remain active in District 6 upon the expiration of my term, the fact that I will not have an opportunity to finish the work that I have begun speaks to a much larger issue: the need for continuity.

Undoubtedly, the City Council is a political body whose members are chosen through the political process. Nonetheless, it is vital that the work of the City Council not be dictated by politics. However, the reality is that without an opportunity to oversee the completion of important projects, the fate of many projects will be determined by a newly elected councilmember that may not be familiar with the needs of the district or may have different priorities. Until our elected officials are provided with an adequate amount of time to serve the residents of San Antonio, it will be the duty of our citizens to hold future councilmembers accountable for the completion of projects initiated by their predecessors.

In my opinion, the greatest challenge facing our city is the need to recognize and acknowledge the fact that many of the issues facing San Antonio, as we strive to solidify our role in the global community, require more than four years to develop an adequate solution. Before we can expect the rest of the nation, the international community or potential business partners to seriously consider San Antonio, we must first demonstrate that we are seriously committed to providing our local elected officials with the resources necessary to effectively address issues facing our community.

*January 13, 2004*

**4th Anniversary Edition**

*January 13, 2000*



# CHARTER CHANGES

In December 1951, the “Charter of the City of San Antonio” was adopted. In the last 52 years, the Charter has only been amended five (5) times—in 1974, 1977, 1991, 1997, and 2001.

In 1991, the voters of San Antonio voted to limit the length and numbers of terms their elected representatives could serve on the Council and as Mayor.

In recent years, many have expressed concern that although the limits may have addressed one issue, they created another problem: an unaccountable power structure.

In 2001, many residents campaigned to expand the limits to allow their elected leaders to serve longer terms. At the time, there was no consensus in the community as to whether the terms should be expanded, or to what length.

Since then, a consensus has developed. The question now regards the details: length & number of terms.

Over the past few months, the Citizens Committee on Charter Review has been looking at this issue in order to make recommendations to the City Council. They held two community meetings to solicit input from residents before finalizing their recommendations.

On January 13, 2004, the 4th Anniversary of Councilman Barrera’s appointment to the City Council, the Committee recommended limiting elected leaders to three consecutive three-year terms.

In February, to further solicit input from residents, the City Council will hold **two Public Hearings** on:

***Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>***

We encourage residents to attend and formally voice their thoughts to the entire Council at these meetings. The Council will call for the election and determine the ballot’s details on **Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**. These meetings are held at **City Council Chambers** next to San Fernando Cathedral.

February will not be the last time you can voice your opinion on this issue. **Term Limits can only be amended through a city-wide election.** This election is scheduled for **May 15, 2004** with **early voting** beginning on **April 28<sup>th</sup>** and ending on **May 11<sup>th</sup>**.

Regardless of how one feels about this issue, citizens have a right to vote and have their voices heard at the ballot box. Exercise your right to vote! In May 2003, only 2559 or 3% of registered voters in District 6 voted. Although this number should be 100%, we should strive for at least double digits!

***Talk to your neighbors and let’s Get Out the Vote!***



# HORIZONS

Beginning this spring the City of San Antonio will be providing information about each Council District on a monthly basis through TVSA, our City’s Government Access Channel 21. Each Council Member will be hosting their own show as a tool to showcase their district and as an opportunity to provide important information to their constituents.

Councilman Barrera looks forward to highlighting aspects of District 6 that portray civic duty, community commitment and leadership, and citizen participation in local government. Each show will have 2 to 4 guests that address relevant District 6 issues.

Our staff will be producing the show with the assistance of interns from District 6 high schools. Look for more news, schedules, and guest panels on our website:

**[www.EnriqueBarrera.com/TV](http://www.EnriqueBarrera.com/TV)**

Keep in mind this show belongs to you, the constituents that make District 6 a great community in which to work and live. If you have any ideas or know of District 6 businesses, schools, groups, issues, or individuals that should be recognized on *your* show, please contact Stephanie at [cadist6@sanantonio.gov](mailto:cadist6@sanantonio.gov) or 207-2127.

The show’s name is ***HORIZONS***. See our website to find out why.



**Got a  
Suggestion for  
the Show?**

**Call  
207-2127**

# LEARNING, EDUCATION, AND DUTY (L.E.A.D.)

Education is a crucial element in forming the future leaders of District 6. Councilman Barrera and his staff plan to assist in achieving this goal by collaborating with area high schools. By offering accessibility to a vast range of resources, a partnership can be created between schools and Councilman Barrera's office to enhance education.

Principals of the local high schools have been invited to join this venture and most have accepted the unique opportunity to collaborate. The principals, Councilman Barrera and staff have begun meeting to brainstorm on field trips, guest speakers, learning seminars and many other experiences that take students out of their classrooms to apply their skills to environments outside their school.

Councilman Barrera hopes to assist principals in building bridges between schools and real world application. If you have any ideas, questions, or concerns please contact Stephanie E. Bocanegra at cadist6@sanantonio.gov or 207-2127.

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VOLUNTEER  
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## 2004 STREET MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

*Councilman Barrera allocated \$1.9 million for Street Maintenance in District 6 in 2004*

STREET	FROM	TO
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### Overlay

Hunt	Marbach	Ingram
Old Hwy 90	Acme	36th
Old Hwy 90	Callaghan	US 90

### Reconstruction

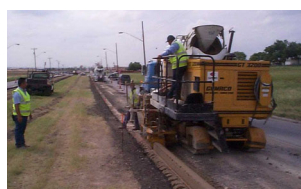
Fridell	40th	Belcross
Monterey	38th	Belcross
Pharis	39th	Cul De Sac
Villa Lago	Hunt	Cul De Sac

### Crack Seal

Acme	Castroville	Old Hwy 90
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### Full Depth Reclamation & Overlay

38th	Pharis	Joe Blanks
Bowens Crossing	Loop 1604	Charter Point
Fern Crest	Lazy Trail	Windbridge
Fridell	36th	Roseanna
Mabe	Ingram	Joe Newton
Monterey	36th	Rose Anna
Pharis	36th	38th
Roseanna	Buena Vista	Pharis
Stephanie	36th	Rose Anna



STREET	FROM	TO
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### Alphalt Overlay

Belcross	Commerce	Dead End
Bowens Crossing	Charter Point	Ardash
Clearcrest	Stonehouse	Singing Brook
Cliffbrier	Culebra	Valley Dale
Lancewood	Clearcrest	Palmgrove
Meadow Bend	Loop 410	Meadow Knoll
Meadow Breeze	Loop 410	Canyon Ridge
Meadow Glade	Loop 410	Meadow Knoll
Meadow Glen	Loop 410	Meadow Knoll
Meadow Knoll	Meadow Park	Meadow Glen
Meadow Leaf	Loop 410	Meadow Way
Meadow Park	Meadow Way	Meadow Knoll
Meadow Path	Loop 410	Meadow Knoll
Northchase	Old Tezel	Dead End
Palmgrove	Stonehouse	Singing Brook
Spring Meadow	Clearcrest	Palmgrove
Stonehouse	Clearcrest	Palmgrove

### Base & Pavement Repair

Cable Ranch	Marbach	Lakeside Pkwy
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## FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Sunnybrook Academy      Benitia Family Center  
1620 Pinn Rd.                      4650 Eldridge

A New Beginning Community Baptist Church  
734 SW 35th Street

**Need assistance preparing your tax returns?**

**Contact the City's Department of Community Initiatives at 207-6095 for more information**

## FREE LANDFILL DISPOSAL DAYS

**Saturday, February 7 & Saturday, April 3**  
**8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

BFI Tessman Landfill                      WM Covell Gardens  
TDS Starcrest Transfer Station      Camargo Park Drop-Off

**Get Rid of Bulky Items**

**(old furniture, broken appliances, etc.)**

[www.sanantonio.gov/enviro/solidwaste/  
Ndisposallandfill.asp](http://www.sanantonio.gov/enviro/solidwaste/Ndisposallandfill.asp) for more info



**Exercise your right to vote!**

***Primary Elections***

**Tuesday, March 9**

**Early Voting—Feb 23 - Mar 5**

***City Charter Reform***

**Saturday, May 15**

**Early Voting—Apr 28 - May 11**

**Voting is one of the most important rights as a United States Citizen.**

***EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT!***



Councilman Barrera reads to students of NW Crossing Elementary

## **Monthly Community Meetings**

Come share your ideas, learn about different programs and services, and voice any concerns with Councilman Barrera and City staff.

Meetings begin at **7:00 pm** and are held at the **SAPD West Substation**, located at 7000 Culebra, just inside Loop 410.

**Monday, February 23**  
**Monday, March 22**  
**Monday, April 26**

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[www.sanantonio.gov/council/d6.asp](http://www.sanantonio.gov/council/d6.asp)  
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